Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: EAID. FIND

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIALIZATION INSTITUTE III

REF: STATE 037062, STATE 042354, STATE 047938

1. EMBASSY WILL BE PLEASED RECEIVE III TEAM APRIL 14-15. WE HAVE NOT RAISED VISIT WITH GOIC PENDING ARRIVAL OF DESCRIPTION MATERIAL, BUT DEPENDING ON THEIR AVAILABILITY AT THE TIME, WE ARE SURE THAT MINISTER OF PLAN DIAWARA AND OFFICIALS IN THE MINISTRY, OFFICIALS OF BUREAU OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (BDI) AND ENTENTE COUNCIL SECRETARY KAYA WOULD BE ENTIRELY READY TO RECEIVE III MISSION.

2. EMBASSY HAS SOME RESERVATIONS, HOWEVER, ABOUT ENTHUSIASM WITH WHICH GOIC WILL REACT TO III CONCEPT. CERTAINLY THE FIRST QUESTION THAT IVORIANS WILL ASK IS WHAT III CAN DO EITHER IN IVORY COAST OR MORE GENERALLY IN WEST AFRICA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THAT OTHER EXISTING ORGANIZATIONS ARE NOT ALREADY DOING. UNIDO, ECOWAS, CLUB DE DAKAR, AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK AND FUND AS WELL AS NUMEROUS PRIVATE LENDING AND DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATIONS ALL ARE SEIZED WITH SOME ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM WHICH III PROPOSES TO ADDRESS. THE IVLORY COAST ITSELF HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN LONG-TERM ECONOMIC PLANNING SINCE 1960'S AND HAS RECENTLY SIGNED A CONTRACT

WITH DEVELOPMENT AND RESOURCES COPORATION TO EXAMINE PLANS OF DEVELOPMENT OF THE NORTHERN REGION (DRC EARLIER PREPARED THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN NOW BEING IMPLEMENTED FOR THE WESTERN REGION OF THE IVORY COAST). THE NEW AND HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED FIVE-YEAR DEVELOPMENT PLAN WHICH PROVIDES FOR DIVERSIFICATION AND INCREASED INDUSTRIALI-ZATION OF THE IVORIAN ECONOMY WAS PUBLISHED IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR. THE IVORIANS, IN SHORT, CONSIDER THEM-SELVES WITH SOME JUSTIFICATION AS LEADERS IN THIS FIELD. THE ATTITUDE OF MINISTER OF PLAN DIAWARA, HIMSELF A FRENCH TRAINED ECONOMIST WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDING. WILL DEPEND ENTIRELY ON WHETHER HE CAN BE CONVINCED THAT III HAS A LEGITIMATE CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO THE PLANNING AND INDUSTRIALIZATION PROCESS IN THE IVORY COAST AND THE TEAM SHOULD BE PREPARED FOR SHARP AND SKEPTICAL QUESTIONS ON THIS POINT.

3. AGAINST THIS BACKGROUND WE BELIEVE THAT WHILE GOIC WILL NO DOUBT BE INTERESTED IN III CONCEPT IVORIAN PARTICIPATION WILL DEPEND UPON THE TEAM'S ABILITY TO CONVINCE OFFICIALS HERE THAT III CAN BRING TO THE IVORY COAST INSIGHTS AND RESOURCES NOT ALREADY AVAILABLE. STEARNS

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